

Independent Office,

New York, 16 June, 1866.

My Dear Garrison,

Not a day passes over my head
but I do not think of you in your suffering
and wish I could do something for your relief.
I nursed a faint hope to the last that you
would be able to come to the Yearly Meeting,
and felt a pang of disappointment when
your letter ~~expressed~~ ^{blew} that hope away. But,
much as I wanted you to come to the meet-
ing, my chief regret was that you were ill
and racked with pain. I trust you are at
least some better by this time, and will soon be
well again; for it is hard indeed for one whose
life has been active as yours, and whose mind
is enlisted in all that concerns the public welfare,
to be laid on the shelf and agonized with
pain.

Are you a grandfather yet? If not, take my congratulations in
advance.

You will be glad to learn that the meeting was a complete success. Indeed, some of our friends thought it the best we had ever held. It was less vexed than usual by bores, the speaking was generally spirited, the attendance overflowing. Those who took most prominent part in the discussions were Theodore Tilton, Frances D. Gage, Anna Dickinson, Aaron Powell, H. P. Crozier, Giles B. Stebbins, and Susan B. Anthony. Before leaving home, I wrote a testimony entitled "The End of Slavery - the Rights of the Emancipated." It asserted, in the broadest terms that slavery ~~was~~^{is} abolished - that there ~~was~~^{is} not a slave on the American soil - that the primal work of the Abolitionists ~~was~~^{is} therefore accomplished, the promise of Abraham Lincoln in his Emancipation Proclamation more than fulfilled. Having made this clear, it next considered our duty to the free, and

put the case so strong that even the most zealous Phillipsite could find nothing lacking, save the abuse of Congress ~~where-~~ withal he seasons his discourse. Tilton wrote a testimony to follow this upon Reconstruction, and the two were discussed together. There was nothing to divide us in the testimonies themselves which were unanimously agreed to in committee and in the meeting; but I felt called upon to reply to what seemed to me a sweeping and unfair condemnation of Congress by Tilton and Anna - the latter especially - and the discussion was quite spirited. But it was in good temper and ended well. If there had been an attempt to arraign and condemn Congress in the testimonies, it would have been voted down by the meeting, by an overwhelming majority. Purvis was not present,

though expected to the last. He would
no doubt, if present, have made a fiery
speech, out Phillipsing Phillips! Our
friends at Longwood are mostly a ra-
tional, well-balanced set of people,
who mean always to be candid and
just as well as true to the oppressed.
I will send you the Proceedings when
they are out of press.

Mary Anne did not go to the meet-
ing, but to Concord, N. H., instead, to visit
Gov. Gilmore & family. She will probably
go to-day to her sister's in Canaan, N. H.,
and, about the middle of July, to the White
mountains. I expect to have a month in
the mountains, in July or August.

Theodore & wife went to Washington
from Longwood, and have not yet re-
turned.

With love to Helen and the rest
of your household, I am, dear Garrison,
Yours, affectionately, Oliver Johnson.